

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 AID-05 MCT-01 SSM-03 /086 W
-----091449Z 086850 /43

R 091417Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4147
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, LY
SUBJ: COL. QADHAFI SPEAKS IN TRIPOLI

SUMMARY. IN IMPRESSIVE RALLY MARCH 8 LIBYAN LEADER COL.
QADHAFI HAILED ADVENT OF ERA OF THE MASSES, DENOUNCED EGYPT
AND SUDAN, EXHORTED PEOPLE TO BE VIGILANT AGAINST ENEMIES OF
THE REVOLUTION. ENEMIES WERE DESCRIBED AS REACTIONARIES.
END SUMMARY.

1. COL. QADHAFI DELIVERED TWO-HOUR SPEECH AT MASSIVE RALLY
HELD IN TRIPOLI'S MARTYR SQUARE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 8. SPEECH
WAS NOTABLE FOR BELLIGERENT THREATS AGAINST ENEMIES OF THE
REVOLUTION. QADHAFI MADE FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS. REFERRING
TO SEBHA DECLARATIONS, QADHAFI SAID THE REVOLUTION WAS NOW
COMPLETE AND THAT THERE WERE NO FURTHER DUTIES FOR THE
REVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP WHICH INCLUDED THE REMAINING
MEMBERS OF THE RCC AND THE FREE UNION OFFICERS. THEIR JOB
WAS OVER, THEY WOULD NO LONGER PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT,
THEY WOULD BE WITH THE PEOPLE. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT
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THEY REMAINED READY AND WILLING TO ASSIST THE MASSES
IN THEIR NEW ROLE AS GUARDIANS OF LIBYA'S DESTINY.

2. QADHAFI HAILED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JAMAHIRIYAH
WHICH MARKED THE END OF THE ERA OF REPUBLICS AND THE
BEGINNING OF THE NEW ERA OF THE RULE OF THE MASSES IN
WHICH LIBYA PLAYED THE LEADING ROLE. QADHAFI NOTED

THAT OTHER ARAB REGIMES AND OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD NO
DOUBT SOON BE FOLLOWING THE LIBYAN EXAMPLE.

3. HE SCORNE THE RECENT PACT BETWEEN EGYPT AND SUDAN
(NO MENTION WAS MADE OF SYRIA OR PRESIDENT ASAD'S
PARTICIPATION) WHICH HE SAID WAS NOT SO MUCH AIMED
AGAINST LIBYA AS A CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE PEOPLES
OF EGYPT AND SUDAN WITH WHOM LIBYA SYMPATHIZED AND STOOD
SIDE BY SIDE.

4. QADHAFI EMPHASIZED THAT UNDER PEOPLE'S POWER THE
PEOPLE THEMSELVES, MEN AND WOMEN, WILL HAVE THE LEADING
ROLE IN THE DEFENSE OF THE HOMELAND. PROFESSIONAL
ARMIES, HE SAID, WERE GOING OUT OF STYLE, NEVERTHELESS,
A TRAINING CADRE WOULD STILL BE REQUIRED UNTIL THE
PEOPLE'S FORCES CAME INTO BEING. QADHAFI ISSUED A STERN
WARNING AGAINST THOSE WHO MIGHT THREATEN REVOLUTIONARY
ACHIEVEMENTS FROM WITHIN OR WITHOUT. HE SINGLED OUT
THE "BOURGEOIS CLASSES" WHO WERE ESSENTIALLY REACTION-
ARIES AND SUGGESTED THAT THE MASSES OF LIBYA SHOULD
DEAL WITH THEM. HE ALSO WARNED AGAINST THOSE WHO
ENGAGED IN IMPROPER POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

5. ISLAM, ALSO HE SAID, NEEDED PROTECTION FROM ITS
ENEMIES. WITH THE DECLARATION OF THE HOLY KORAN AS
THE FUNDAMENTAL LAW OF LIBYA, THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES
COULD INTERPRET AND UNDERSTAND ISLAM. THEY SHOULD NOT,
HE SAID, BE MISLED BY RELIGIOUS LEADERS WHO OFTEN
USED ISLAM FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

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6. QADHAFI'S TWO-HOUR SPEECH WAS PRECEDED BY OPENING
REMARKS OF EX-PRIME MIN AJOR JALLUD WHO PRAISED THE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE REVOLUTION AND ITS LEADER "MASTER
THINKER" QADHAFI. HE QUOTED CASTRO AS DESCRIBING
QADHAFI AS "THE ONLY PROLETARIAN IN THE WORLD."

7. THE RALLY WAS PUT TOGETHER IN LESS THAN 24 HOURS
AND WAS WELL ATTENDED AND IMPRESSIVELY ORGANIZED. THE
HIGHLIGHT WAS THE PROCESSION LED BY QADHAFI SURROUNDED
BY REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE RCC AND A CONTINGENT OF
FREE OFFICERS WHO RODE IN AN OPEN TRUCK FROM THE MILI-
TARY AIRPORT TO THE SCENE OF THE RALLY. NO MEMBERS
OF THE CIVILIAN POPULAR COMMITTEE (OR CABINET) WERE
IN EVIDENCE. MESSAGE WAS CLEAR. THE REVOLUTION WAS
SPAWNED AND NURTURED BY QADHAFI AND HIS MILITARY
COLLEAGUES WHO, DESPITE DISCLAIMERS, WILL CONTINUE
TO BE ITS GUARDIANS. THE DAY, MARCH 8, IS NORMALLY
SCHEDULED AS A SHOLIDAY HONORING SYRIAN INDEPENDENCE

ABOUT WHICH NO MENTION WAS MADE. QADHAFI APPARENTLY
DECIDED TO MAINTAIN SEBHA MOMENTUM BY EXPOSING
CITIZENS TO TRIPOLI TO THE BENEFITS OF PEOPLE'S
POWER. QADHAFI'S SPEECH, HOWEVER, HAD UNDERTONES OF
DEFENSIVENESS AND SUGGESTS HE ANTICIPATES OR FEARS
OPPOSITION. FEEDBACK FROM LIMITED NUMBER OF LIBYAN
CONTACTS INDICATES CONSIDERABLE CONCERN ABOUT FUTURE
STABILITY IN LIBYA FOLLOWING ESTABLISHMENT OF "NEW
ORDER."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TRIPOL00315
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770081-0220
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770375/aaaacoqe.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 68bed1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3156249
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COL. QADHAFI SPEAKS IN TRIPOLI SUMMARY. IN IMPRESSIVE RALLY MARCH 8 LIBYAN LEADER COL. QADHAFI HAILED ADVENT OF ERA OF THE MASSES, DENOUN
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, LY, (QADHAFI, MU'AMMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/68bed1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009